



Billing Code: 3410-30-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC): Income Eligibility Guidelines

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Agriculture (“Department”) announces adjusted income eligibility guidelines to be used by State agencies in determining the income eligibility of persons applying to participate in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC). These income eligibility guidelines are to be used in conjunction with the WIC Regulations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donna Hines, Chief, Policy Branch, Supplemental Food Programs Division, FNS, USDA, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, Virginia 22302, (703) 305-2746.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Executive Order 12866:

This notice has been determined to be not significant and was not reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in conformance with Executive Order 12866.

Regulatory Flexibility Act:

This action is not a rule as defined by the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601-612) and thus is exempt from the provisions of this Act.

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995:

This notice does not contain reporting or recordkeeping requirements subject to approval by OMB in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507).

Executive Order 12372:

This program is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Programs under No. 10.557, and is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials (7 CFR Part 3015, Subpart V, 48 FR 29114, June 24, 1983, and 49 FR 22676, May 31, 1984).

Description:

Section 17(d)(2)(A) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1786(d)(2)(A)), requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish income criteria to be used with nutritional risk criteria in determining a person's eligibility for participation in the WIC Program. The law provides that persons will be income eligible for the WIC Program only if they are members of families that satisfy the income standard prescribed for reduced-price school meals under section 9(b) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1758(b)). Under section 9(b), the income limit for reduced-price school meals is 185 percent of the Federal poverty guidelines, as adjusted.

Section 9(b) also requires that these guidelines be revised annually to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index. The annual revision for 2013/2014 was published by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) at 78 FR 16, January 24, 2013. The guidelines published by HHS are referred to as the poverty guidelines.

Section 246.7(d)(1) of the WIC regulations (Title 7, Code of Federal Regulations) specifies that State agencies may prescribe income guidelines either equaling the income guidelines established under section 9 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act for reduced-price school meals, or identical to State or local guidelines for free or reduced-price health care. However, in conforming WIC income guidelines to State or local health care guidelines, the State cannot establish WIC guidelines which exceed the guidelines for reduced-price school meals, or which are less than 100 percent of the Federal poverty guidelines. Consistent with the method used to compute income eligibility guidelines for reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch Program, the poverty guidelines were multiplied by 1.85 and the results rounded upward to the next whole dollar.

At this time, the Department is publishing the maximum and minimum WIC income eligibility guidelines by household size for the period July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014. Consistent with section 17(f)(17) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1786(f)(17)), a State agency may implement the revised WIC income eligibility guidelines concurrently with the implementation of income eligibility guidelines under the Medicaid Program established under Title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396, et seq.). State agencies may coordinate implementation with the revised Medicaid guidelines, i.e., earlier in the year, but in no case may implementation take place later than July 1, 2013.

State agencies that do not coordinate implementation with the revised Medicaid guidelines must implement the WIC income eligibility guidelines on July 1, 2013. The first table of this Notice contains the income limits by household size for the 48 contiguous States, the District of Columbia, and all Territories, including Guam.

INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

(Effective from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014)

Household Size	Federal Poverty Guidelines- 100%					Reduced Price Meals - 185%				
	Annual	Monthly	Twice-Monthly	Bi-Weekly	Weekly	Annual	Monthly	Twice-Monthly	Bi-Weekly	Weekly
48 Contiguous States, D.C., Guam and Territories										
1.....	\$11,490	\$958	\$479	\$442	\$221	\$21,257	\$1,772	\$886	\$818	\$409
2.....	15,510	1,293	647	597	299	28,694	2,392	1,196	1,104	552
3.....	19,530	1,628	814	752	376	36,131	3,011	1,506	1,390	695
4.....	23,550	1,963	982	906	453	43,568	3,631	1,816	1,676	838
5.....	27,570	2,298	1,149	1,061	531	51,005	4,251	2,126	1,962	981
6.....	31,590	2,633	1,317	1,215	608	58,442	4,871	2,436	2,248	1,124
7.....	35,610	2,968	1,484	1,370	685	65,879	5,490	2,745	2,534	1,267
8.....	39,630	3,303	1,652	1,525	763	73,316	6,110	3,055	2,820	1,410
Each add'l family member add	+ \$4,020	+ \$335	+ \$168	+ \$155	+ \$78	+ \$7,437	+ \$620	+ \$310	+ \$287	+ \$144
Alaska										
1.....	\$14,350	\$1,196	\$598	\$552	\$276	\$26,548	\$2,213	\$1,107	\$1,022	\$511
2.....	19,380	1,615	808	746	373	35,853	2,988	1,494	1,379	690
3.....	24,410	2,035	1,018	939	470	45,159	3,764	1,882	1,737	869
4.....	29,440	2,454	1,227	1,133	567	54,464	4,539	2,270	2,095	1,048
5.....	34,470	2,873	1,437	1,326	663	63,770	5,315	2,658	2,453	1,227
6.....	39,500	3,292	1,646	1,520	760	73,075	6,090	3,045	2,811	1,406
7.....	44,530	3,711	1,856	1,713	857	82,381	6,866	3,433	3,169	1,585
8.....	49,560	4,130	2,065	1,907	954	91,686	7,641	3,821	3,527	1,764
Each add'l family member add	+ \$5,030	+ \$420	+ \$210	+ \$194	+ \$97	+ \$9,306	+ \$776	+ \$388	+ \$358	+ \$179
Hawaii										
1.....	\$13,230	\$1,103	\$552	\$509	\$255	\$24,476	\$2,040	\$1,020	\$942	\$471
2.....	17,850	1,488	744	687	344	33,023	2,752	1,376	1,271	636
3.....	22,470	1,873	937	865	433	41,570	3,465	1,733	1,599	800
4.....	27,090	2,258	1,129	1,042	521	50,117	4,177	2,089	1,928	964
5.....	31,710	2,643	1,322	1,220	610	58,664	4,889	2,445	2,257	1,129
6.....	36,330	3,028	1,514	1,398	699	67,211	5,601	2,801	2,586	1,293
7.....	40,950	3,413	1,707	1,575	788	75,758	6,314	3,157	2,914	1,457
8.....	45,570	3,798	1,899	1,753	877	84,305	7,026	3,513	3,243	1,622
Each add'l family member add	+ \$4,620	+ \$385	+ \$193	+ \$178	+ \$89	+ \$8,547	+ \$713	+ \$357	+ \$329	+ \$165

Because the poverty guidelines for Alaska and Hawaii are higher than for the 48 contiguous States, separate tables for Alaska and Hawaii have been included for the convenience of the State agencies.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 1786

Audrey Rowe
Administrator

DATE: March 8, 2013.

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